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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing in support of the recent settlement of the Microsoft federal lawsuit. As a follower of the case, I feel that the lawsuit should have never happened and was mostly created through the actions of desperate competitors. Now that we have an opportunity, the agreement should be approved and the government should focus on the more important issues our country faces right now.

The time and money spent on breaking up a company at the core of the new economy has been excessive to say the least. This has been the reward for starting a business from scratch and revolutionizing the software industry. What Microsoft offers in this deal is more than generous and will allow other competitors plenty of opportunities to sell their products. Access to intellectual property, such as source codes, is a requirement unheard of in the industry, and it is a major concession Microsoft's competitors. Meanwhile, a three-person technical committee will be monitoring compliance of the agreement, which should prove this to be a workable solution.

As a taxpayer and a voter, I believe that this deal is in the best interests of the free market and the most effective direction for the government to spend its time. Microsoft will stay intact and be able to thrive, while its competitors will be guaranteed opportunities for their own success. I look forward to your support.

Sincerely,



Steven Duncan